



SBA DISASTER NEWS

Federal Disaster Loans for Homeowners, Renters and Businesses of All Sizes

U.S. Small Business Administration – Area 3 Disaster Office – 14925 Kingsport Road – Fort Worth, TX 76155 – 1-800-366-6303

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SBA ECONOMIC INJURY DISASTER LOANS AVAILABLE FOR DISASTER VICTIMS

FORT WORTH, TX -- Businesses in some Missouri, Iowa, Kansas, and Nebraska counties can now apply for low interest Economic Injury Disaster Loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). These loans are available to help businesses meet normal operating expenses that cannot be met due to the effects of a disaster. Drought that occurred January 1, 2003, and continuing, caused many farmers and ranchers to experience reduced incomes which may have had an adverse economic effect on businesses depending upon these producers. Farmers and ranchers are not eligible for this loan program but may be eligible for disaster assistance through other Federal agencies. However, nurseries that are victims of drought disasters can apply. Businesses in the following counties are eligible to apply:

Missouri:

Adair	Cass	Grundy	Livingston	Randolph
Andrew	Cedar	Harrison	Macon	Ray
Atchison	Chariton	Henry	Mercer	Saline
Barton	Clay	Hickory	Miller	Schuyler
Bates	Clinton	Holt	Moniteau	St. Clair
Benton	Cooper	Howard	Morgan	Sullivan
Boone	Dade	Jackson	Nodaway	Vernon
Buchanan	Dallas	Jasper	Pettis	Worth
Caldwell	Daviess	Johnson	Platte	
Camden	De Kalb	Lafayette	Polk	
Carroll	Gentry	Linn	Putnam	

Iowa:

Appanoose	Fremont	Ringgold	Wayne
Decatur	Page	Taylor	

Kansas:

Atchison	Doniphan	Linn
Bourbon	Johnson	Miami
Crawford	Leavenworth	Wyandotte

Nebraska:

Nemaha	Otoe	Richardson
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To obtain an application or receive additional information, interested business owners may call the SBA toll-free at 1-800-366-6303 or TDD 817-267-4688 for the hearing impaired. The deadline for filing an application is **July 13, 2004**.

Due to the weather, many producers experienced crop losses and were not able to purchase goods and services at normal levels. Businesses that are dependent upon these producers may have experienced decreased sales, reduced gross profit margins, increased accounts receivable or difficulty in moving inventories at normal levels. The loan can help a business meet installments on long-term debt, accounts payable and overhead expenses that would have been met had the disaster not occurred. Refinancing of long-term debt, however, is not eligible under this program. The loan is designed for those businesses with substantial disaster-related needs and is intended to supplement monies the business owner can provide from other sources.

Loans may be approved for up to \$1,500,000 for actual disaster-related financial needs of the business. Interest rates are 3.324 percent and terms may extend to thirty (30) years, depending upon the repayment ability of the individual applicant. To qualify, businesses must be small by SBA's size standard. Businesses which can meet their financial needs through other sources are not eligible.

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For more information about the SBA Disaster Loan Programs, visit our website at www.sba.gov/disaster.